

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 193702
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMCONSUL KARACHI

AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

AMEMBASSY KABUL

AMCONSUL LAHORE

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

UNCLAS STATE 193702

FOLLOWING REPEAT NEW DELHI 11190 ACTION SECSTATE INFO
BOMBAY CALCUTTA MADRAS DATED AUG 09:

QTE: UNCLAS NEW DELHI 11190

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CGEN

SUBJECT: INDIAN ENTRY REGULATIONS

1. INDIAN GOVERNMENT (GOI) HAS RECENTLY MADE TWO
IMPORTANT CHANGES IN ITS ENTRY REGULATIONS FOR TRAVELLERS.
ONE AFFECTS AIR TRAVEL, THE OTHER OVERLAND ENTRY BY
PRIVATE VEHICLE.

(A) PASSENGERS ARRIVING BY AIR WITHOUT INDIAN VISA MAY BE
ISSUED ENTRY PERMIT ("AIRPORT VISA") ON ARRIVAL. PERMIT
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PREVIOUSLY VALID 28 DAYS FOR THAT ENTRY ONLY, NOW VALID 30
DAYS' STAY WITH 3 ENTRIES WITHIN 90-DAY PERIOD
(NOT REPEAT NOT 3 MONTHS). AIRPORT VISA WILL BE
ISSUED ONLY ONCE IN SIX-MONTH PERIOD; TRAVELERS MAKING MORE
THAN THREE TRIPS TO INDIA IN THAT TIME MUST REPEAT MUST OBTAIN
REGULAR INDIA VISA BEFORE ARRIVAL. ABOVE LIMITS STRICTLY
ENFORCED BY GOI AND EMBASSY NEW DELHI IS NOT IN

POSITION TO OBTAIN EXCEPTIONS. NEW RULES EFFECTIVE APRIL 1, 1977 TO MARCH 31, 1978; POSSIBILITY EXTENSION UNKNOWN AT PRESENT.

B) AS OF APRIL 30, 1977, FEDERATION OF INDIAN AUTOMOBILE ASSOCIATION (FIAA) UNILATERALLY DISSOCIATED ITSELF FROM THE FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE DE L'AUTOMOBILE (FIA) IN PARIS, AND CEASED TO RECOGNIZE CARNETS ISSUED BY THAT ORGANIZATION FOR ENTRY OF PRIVATELY OWNED VEHICLES INTO INDIA. THE ONLY ORGANIZATION WHOSE CARNETS CURRENTLY RECOGNIZED BY GOI IS ALLIANCE INTERNATIONALE DE TOURISME, LOCATED GENEVA. PRIVATE TRAVELERS DRIVING THROUGH INDIA SHOULD BE AWARE THAT IF THEY DO NOT HAVE VALID (I.E. GENEVA ISSUED) CARNET, OWNER WILL EITHER HAVE TO ARRANGE BANK BOND BY AGENT WITHIN INDIA FOR DUTY CHARGEABLE IF VEHICLE NOT RE-EXPORTED OR OBTAIN PROPER CARNET FROM GENEVA. FOREIGN SERVICE POSTS IN NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES NOT IN POSITION TO PROVIDE ALTERNATIVE GUARANTEES OF KIND REQUIRED BY GOI CUSTOMS IN ABSENCE RECOGNIZED CARNET.

2. DEPARTMENT REQUESTED TO GIVE APPROPRIATELY WIDE DISSEMINATION ABOVE INFORMATION IN INTEREST PREVENTING AIRPORT/ BORDER CRISES CAUSING INCONVENIENCE AND FRUSTRATION FOR BOTH TRAVELERS AND POSTS. GOVERN UNQUOTE VANCE

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